

Tohono Chul Park/Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) 2006 Xeriscape Contest – Homeowner Category Entry Rules

PURPOSE: Tohono Chul Park and ADWR are partnering on this Xeriscape Contest to promote the use of native plants, water use awareness and commitment to the long-term resolution of water supply issues in the Tucson Basin. The intent of this contest is to increase awareness within our community of the aesthetic quality attainable by incorporating Xeriscape principles in public and private landscapes while reducing water use, costs and maintenance. The goal is to recognize and honor people who have designed and implemented Xeriscape landscapes that are water efficient.

Xeriscape Principles:

- ◆ Water conserving design
- ◆ Reduction in high-water-using turf or plants
- ◆ Proper maintenance practices
- ◆ Use of low-water-use/drought-tolerant plants zoned by water use (special emphasis on native plants)
- ◆ Incorporation of rainwater-harvesting techniques
- ◆ Soil improvement and use of mulches to retain moisture and reduce evaporation
- ◆ Appropriate and efficient irrigation methods and water-efficient scheduling by plant type, site conditions and seasonal water needs

ELIGIBILITY: Any Xeriscape landscape that has been installed a **minimum of 2 years** in the greater metropolitan Tucson Area. Due to time constraints, entries from outlying areas (e.g. Vail, Green Valley, Sahuarita) may be judged solely using photographs submitted with the application, rather than through a site visit. Entries must be substantially designed and installed by the homeowner (*there is a separate category and entry forms for professionally designed and installed entries*).

ENTRY RULES: Each entry must submit an **Entry Form and a Judges Form** accompanied by a check for **\$10.00** by the deadline of: **Friday, April 7, 2006**. Make checks payable to: **Tohono Chul Park - 2006 Xeriscape Contest**.

1. Each entry must include: a description of any special design features; irrigation method(s) used (drip, spray, etc.); a list of plants; a layout map of the landscape (8½" x 11" or 8 ½" x 14" paper). Please include a description of any water-use efficiency features (e.g. rainwater harvesting, graywater reuse, etc., irrigation clock, rain shut off, individual valves, seasonal irrigation schedules, etc.) incorporated into the design (or retrofit) that you would like the judges to consider.
2. Each entry must submit a **minimum of three (3) and maximum of eight (8)** digital photos on CD or 4x5" color prints showing your landscape. **Photos of each entry will be viewed by the judges prior to the site visit.** Photos will not be returned.
3. Each entry must submit the Judge's Form with the top portion completed.
4. The Monthly Water-usage Worksheet (covers the past 12 months) and the optional "Volume Based Landscape Audit Worksheet" if you would like your entry considered for a **Water Conservation Award**, you earn extra points for completing the audit.
5. A street map marking the location of your home (e.g. Map Guide, or copy from Tucson Street Atlas) and write out clear directions to the site. Give us the easiest route please!
6. **Professional photographs of each landscape will be taken on judging day, tentatively scheduled for April 20, 2006. Therefore, all plants should be sufficiently watered (e.g. not wilted), hardscape should be clean and planting areas well maintained.**

All entrants receive a one-year family membership to Tohono Chul Park and a 3-year subscription to Tucson Home Magazine!

AWARDS: Winning entries will be honored at a special ceremony in May at Tohono Chul Park.



**Tohono Chul Park/ADWR
2006 Xeriscape Contest
HOMEOWNER CATEGORY
APPLICATION FORM**



Judges' Use Only

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete this form and JUDGES FORM (fill in the information above Judge's Instructions). If you would like your entry to be considered for a Water Conservation Award you must also complete the "Volume Based Audit Worksheet" (provided upon request, or online). **Enclose a check for \$10.00 made payable to: Tohono Chul Park –2006 Xeriscape Contest. For questions call 742-6455, ext. 222**

DEADLINE: Friday -April 7, 2006 by 5 p.m.

ENTRANT'S NAME: _____ PHONE: _____
(as it would appear on award)

ADDRESS: _____

FAX: _____ EMAIL: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

MAJOR CROSS STREETS: _____

Please attach a map so the judges can find your home, Thanks

Date the Landscape was installed: _____

Approximate cost of landscaping (including patios, walls etc.): \$ _____

JUDGING CRITERIA

Judges will consider elements of water efficient Xeriscape design. Special Considerations, (check all that apply) This landscape:

- ☐ Is planted with at least 75% native Sonoran and/or Chihuahuan Desert plants.
- ☐ Was designed to attract wildlife.
- ☐ Is a revegetation of previously disturbed desert. (Provide before and after pictures)
- ☐ Is a retrofit of a high-water using landscape. Provide before and after photos, if available, and an estimate of water-use savings.
- ☐ Is designed to incorporate rainwater harvesting and/or graywater systems, use of mulch or other methods to reduce the use of groundwater for irrigation.
- ☐ Is a special treatment of a hillside or slope.
- ☐ Other _____

If you need more information on Xeriscape landscaping with native and low-water-use plants, or would like a low-water use plant list, please call ADWR at 770-3800; Tohono Chul Park 742-6455 or visit our websites at: **www.azwater.gov (Conservation) or www.tohonochulpark.org**